GRAPHIC

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Matters of Moment

Port Arthur's Fall

No event of war since the surrender of Lee has been more freely discussed than the surrender of Stoessel's gallant army in Port Arthur. What effect this success of the Japanese will have on the war time alone can develop. Careful reading of the dispatches from numerous American and European points will convince any thinking man that all of the so-called "authorities" are at sea. Opinions vary from predicting the early end of hostilities to expression of the belief that Russian will never give up.

Two factors in this struggle militate against even ultimate success of the Russian arms. That the carrying capacity of the Siberian railway has been reached is plain from the careful and evidently unbiased study of the Manchurian situation by an attache of Scribner's with Kuropatkin's army. It is made plain that while Russia has plenty of men in Russia she has no transportation facilities to increase the Manchurian army. The best that can be done with the road, administered as it is today, is to maintain the Manchurian forces at approximately their present strength. The railroad can be depended upon to do no more than transport supplies and about enough men to replace those who are lost by disease and in battle.

If history be read correctly, it is rather amusingeven pathetic-to hear the stormy declarations that Russia has never given up and never will give up. Russia's wars in the past have been principally with the Turks. Opposed to the Western nations-in their warfare the Japanese are strictly Western-Russia has never made a particularly good showing. Every opponent of Russia that has not made the mistake of sending an army into Russia has beaten Russia. The Swedes defeated the Russians until Charles XII. tried to whip the center of Russia. Frederick the Great beat off the Russians who were in the alliance against him in the Seven Years' War, his last victory over them being at Zorndorf. The Russians got the worst of the day at Austerlitz, and they really had no effect in the Napoleonic wars until Napoleon -following the bad example of Charles XII.-undertook to beat them in their own land. England, France, Sardinia and Turkey defeated the Russians handily in the Crimean war. Russian military history reveals that everybody except the Turks has trimmed them around the edges and nobody has got at the heart of the country. And what Japan is doing is keeping up historical precedents by giving the Colossus of the North another edge trimming, this time in Asia.

Russia is on the verge of a political change. The war is a minor incident, or rather it is the final cause that seems certain to bring about an altered form of government. To what extent changes will be made is something beyond mortal ken.

Only One Possible Source

Rev. G. W. Dowling, who has for some time been rector of Christ Episcopal Church, has resigned, as was expected. It was inevitable.

This could come from only one source. It is from the Los Angeles Times of January 3. Of course, the cause of the Times's hostility to Dr. Dowling is too well known in this city and is rated at its true value. Because Dr. Dowling would not follow the instructions of General Otis and enunciate principles on the labor question acceptable to this would-be dictator, he has been pursued as relentlessly as if he were Beelzebub. Most men have grown to care nothing for Otisian attacks, but Dr. Dowling possesses a skin that is not invulnerable. He is getting the rawhiding which General Otis lays on the backs of those who disagree with him.

How long! How long will this American community be content to accept the lashings and beatings which Otis deals out to those whom he has marked for chastisement? Is there no limit to his pursuit? No limit to the patience of the many who cringe at his bludgeon?

Those who sympathize with General Otis in his recent affliction—there are many—have of late been using measures and persuasion to induce people who do not fear General Otis and are not afraid to speak their minds to ease up in their criticisms of the editor and his paper. The Graphic owns that it subscribes most heartily to such a movement provided General Otis and the Times will sheath the sword. The Graphic owns to a high regard for some of General Otis's qualities-his chastisement of pernicious laborites who work with their mouths; his bulldog tenacity and grit; his recognized ability as one of the last of the Old Guard of editors, a survival of the heroic days when personality counted in newspaper work. The Graphic owns, further, to the belief that if General Otis had spent the last ten or fifteen years of his life in mixing with his fellows and extending the courtesies due from one man to another, any preferment which he might have sought from the people of Southern California would have been his.

For the reason that the **Graphic** has a sincere admiration for his good qualities it is ready to let him alone the moment that he will cease his outrageous attacks on men of the standing and calibre of Dr. Dowling; the moment that he will cease to consult the Black Book as an infallible guide to public policy; the moment that he will consent to conduct the Times in a dignified manner and drop the literary blacksnake which he wields; the moment, in short, when he will consent to be decent.

It is a shame that a man of his talents, ability and experience misdirects his energy and embitters not only his own life but the lives of those whom he seeks ruthlessly to override.

Beneficence Run Mad

CORONA, Cal., Jan. 3.—Charged with drinking liquor in their house, in violation of an ordinance recently passed in this town, George Patton and wife, Eliza, who were arrested December 20 by City Marshal Peach, have changed their plea from "not guilty" to "guilty." Each was fined \$25 by City Recorder Gleason, both being charged with a separate violation of the ordinance. Their trial was to have been held January 10. The fine was made as lenient as possible because of sickness in the family.

This telegram is produced in its entirety that the exact nature of the offense charged against "George Payton and his wife Eliza" may be known and realized.

The Graphic realizes to the fullest possible extent the ills which follow the abuse of liquor. No one wishes more heartily to see those ills relieved. Yet it is submitted that by the adoption and enforcement of ordinances which prohibit a man from using intoxicants in his own home, the "temperance" advocates lay themselves open to charges of intemperance of the most pernicious character. The Graphic knows nothing of the character of "George Payton and his wife Eliza," and cares nothing. The vital fact is that they were fined for "drinking liquor in their own house." There were no charges of disorderliness accompanying the drinking, for, depend upon it, if "George Payton and his wife Eliza" had been disorderly, a charge covering the case would have been brought. It was not charged that they were drunk, nor that they are improper persons. These charges, too, would have been forthcoming if there had been any foundation to them.

There was once a Los Angeles chief of police named Elton, who learned to his sorrow and chagrin that although poker-playing is prohibited in what are ordinarily known as open games, he had no right to arrest people who were playing a social game in a private house. The fiasco that followed the arrest of John Lee and his friends in a private house on Sixteenth street is not forgotten.

Men are not made abstemious by arresting them in their own homes, for drinking liquor. Of more consequence, no one has the right to interfere with what people do in their houses, so long as they keep within certain well-recognized bounds. The City of Corona, however, is not the only one that presumes to invade a man's castle. Long Beach tried it and with futile results.

Ready for Tourists.

The Hotel Metropole, which was closed for three months for alterations and repairs, was reopened this week. During the closing of the hotel Avalon has been quieter than it has been for years, but with the reopening the Catalina Islanders are once more alive. Manager Fletcher is again in charge of the Metropole this year and the Bannings could not have found a better man to look after this very important adjunct of their property. Mr. Fletcher's first season last year was somewhat disappointing, owing to the general exodus to St. Louis, but there is every indication that his efforts to accommodate all the guests his house will hold will be successful this season.

By The Way

Molasses vs. Vinegar.

The friends of Mayor McAleer will view with considerable apprehension and distress the attitude recently adopted by the Times regarding him. What. asks the innocent reader-a newcomer, perhaps-is the Times opposing McAleer? Bless your heart, no. If that were the case, there would be no cause for apprehension on the part of his friends, but rather there would be joy and gratification. Unfortunately, the Times has decided to "take up" the luckless McAleer, and is endeavoring to make a sort of a "teacher's pet" out of him. Everything he does is noble, grand and heroic, and the slightest questioning of his course on the part of anybody, is rank treason. His commissioners are without exception the finest ever; and one of them, on being interviewed, is encouraged to announce his opinion that Mac is a "second Roosevelt." We don't quite know what all this means, but it certainly has an ominous look for Mac. Possibly the Times has it figured out this way: "We have queered ourselves almost everywhere in this community, and it is high time we made friends somewhere. We need other political support besides that of Ex-Bowen and Ex-Nofziger. Mac is new to the political and journalistic game, and probably does not know a gold brick when he sees it. Maybe he has forgotten how we sneered at his opposition to Huntington, and tried to head off his nomination for Mayor, and undertook to drive him into a statement on the union question that would inevitably have caused his defeat. A little judicious flattery laid on thick at the beginning of his term may do the business, and get him over to our side on next year's printing contract. And so the great journal of civilization scurries round and round the new Mayor, brushing off his coat, handing him his hat, bows unctuously and holds out its hand for the expected tip. But the canny Scot only smiles.

All at Sea.

I doubt if any trustworthy line on the United States Senatorship is to be had before the first ballot is taken next week. This is written Wednesday evening. At that time legislators and correspondents were all at sea. The San Francisco papers have virtually confessed their helplessness to get a reliable poll of the members. The Los Angeles papers have done what was expected of them. Al Searl, in the "Express," and Otheman Stevens, in the "Examiner," have intimated their inability to get at the kernal of the nut. This they have done by publishing the claims of the Flint, Knight, Oxnard, Bard and Fisk adherents, and by attempting no analysis of the Legislature. The "Times," as was to have been expected, has been handling its news on a pro-Bard basis. This may entertain the Bard contingent that is with Otis on this issue, but it isn't news; and the function of a newspaper is to give news in its news columns.

One phase of the Senatorial battle which may come prominently to the front and may never more be heard from, is the suggestion made by Senator G. Russ Lukens, of Oakland, that the Southern Cali-

fornia delegation unite on Mr. H. E. Huntington. The suggestion has caused a deal of quiet talk in Los Angeles. It is evident, too, that U. S. Grant's friends are looking for the persimmon to drop at his feet. Henry T. Gage is a possibility. But the confidence of the Flint followers is unshaken. Walter Parker daily reiterates his statement that Flint will be named on the first, second or third ballot, and when Walter Parker is as confident as he now is, he usually has good ground for his confidence.

James's Libel Suit.

I must confess to a feeling of regret that Frank James has taken his battle with the Express into the courts. In the first place I don't think he will make much out of his suit. In the second place I like him and I like the Express management and a fellow cannot wax enthusiastic over a libel suit when friends of his are on both sides of the case. have read the Express's editorial which caused the suit and the follow up editorial which the Times gleefully believes will cause another action to be brought. A matter of eighteen years' experience in the newspaper business teaches me that there is nothing to be gained by any one in bringing a libel suit. A newspaper man should be able to write all around a libel suit; and while conducting an attack or standing for a principle, never allow a single actionable sentence or phrase to appear. It can be done and if my reading of the English language is correct, it has been done by the Express in this instance. I say this with a full knowledge of the exceedingly strict interpretation of the laws on libel set forth by the supreme court of California. The newspaper profession owes it to Mr. W. R. Hearst that these decisions have been handed down; it is a fact that for many years the Supreme Court struck Hearst wherever it could and I for one am wondering whether the construction of the law is to be still more closely drawn when the court hands down a decision in the Tingley-Times case from San Diego county.

Gloating Not Advisable.

For the good of the business I dislike to see the spirit which animates one newspaper publisher gloating over the libel difficulties of another. You can never tell when or where the ax will next fall, and a howl of anguish is very apt to follow a chortle. Libel suits are like pigeons. They come in flocks. Because Mr. James has seen fit to sue the Express and the other papers have seen fit to give the fact wide publicity, Smith, Jones, Brown or Robinson, who has, or thinks he has, a grievance against the Times, Examiner, Herald or Record is likely to hunt up some fee-hunting lawyer and bring a suit. Some publishers may say differently, but there isn't a newspaper that welcomes an action for libel. Such suits are a pestiferous nuisance. The average newspaper doesn't fear the results of a suit, but it doesn't like to be bothered. All of these remarks on libel suits and their running in epidemics brings up the query: "Why don't the newspapers suppress all mention of them?'

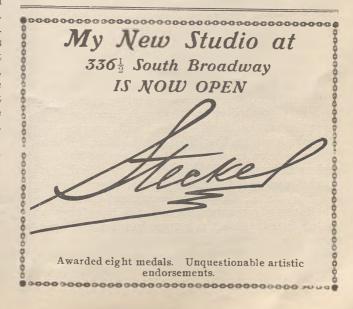
Where They Suppress.

They do suppress such articles in San Francisco. The Examiner, the Chronicle or the Call may be sued

for libel by nearly anybody and not a word of it gets out. It is only where the persons involved are first magnitude business, political or social lights that an exception is made. The last libel case that was exploited in San Francisco was, if my memory is right, the suit of Baron Von Schroeder against the Call. The suits of Henry T. Gage naturally had to be mentioned because he was Governor of the State. But the ordinary everyday citizen can bring a score of suits if he pleases and he will not get publicity. The same happy state of affairs would prevail in Los Angeles if the Times and its owners would recognize the right of other publishers to exist. The Times seems to be run on the theory that it is all sufficient in every department of newspaper endeavor and that there is no room for any other newspaper publisher. When it accepts the inevitable, then it will come to terms. For the present it gloats over a suit brought against another paper. The first suit Hardison had with the old Herald was brought by a Tulare county man who had been indicted by the Federal grand jury. The Herald misstated the offense charged-said conspiracy instead of perjury, or vice versa. The man indicted brought suit and the Times chuckled with its peculiar brand of chuckling. Hardison compromised that suit rather than go to trial before a Tulare county jury, and to this day I have always regarded the suit as a hold-up. Now, mark you. When Mrs. Tingley's action against the Times came to trial in San Diego the Herald came back with a vengeance. I know, because I was detailed to go to San Diego and ridicule and riddle the Times case. Not discussing the justice of Mrs. Tingley's case, Judge Torrance made rulings in the course of that trial, that if sustained by the Supreme Court will cause more than one publisher in California to dance a merry dance. Coming back to the original argument, I really would like to see the Los Angeles publishers agree to shut up about the other fellow's legal troubles. I don't expect any trouble myself, for I try to tell the truth, and hence this homily is purely informal.

The Retiring Council.

In a little dinner which ex-Councilman Farish gave to the council and to some of the retiring city officers, Mayor McAleer made a speech in which he declared his belief that the last council was the most



economical and the most efficient that had ever been in the service of the city. This is the happy season of the year when we all enjoy saying pleasant things to one another, and under the circumstances Mr. McAleer may be pardoned the "jolly" which he gave to the men he had so often roasted for their slavish obedience to the corporations. If Mr. Mc-Aleer actually believes what he is reported as saying, he should begin his mayoralty by a course in municipal finance. But he does not really believe it. There was once a Macedonian general who displeased his king-Philip, the father of Alexanderby restraining the royal drunken rage at a banquet, and the king thereupon ordered his immediate exe-'I appeal from that order," thundered the general. "To whom can you appeal," asked the king: "there is no power in the state above me." "I appeal from Philip drunk to Philip sober," plied the general. And we appeal from McAleer the "jollier" to McAleer the defender of the people's interests. Was it an economical council that voted the printing contract to the Times and sacrificed from \$10,000 to \$20,000 of the public money? McAleer did not think so, for he voted against it. Was it an economical council that sold several dozen franchises for a few hundred dollars each, franchises that were worth in the aggregate probably a million dollars? McAleer did not think so, when he voted persistently against them. Was it an economical council that backed down on making the railways sprinkle their tracks? McAleer did not think so at the time. Was it an economical council that allowed Werdin a \$90,000 overdraft, paid \$1 a barrel for 70-cent oil, and that tried to stack the cards on McAleer to buy trust fire engines at a higher figure than was afterwards paid for better machines? As to efficiency-well, the Lord forgive us! We had almost forgotten that it is the holiday season, and the honorable adage which particularly fits this case: nil mortuis nisi bonum-speak nothing but good of those who have passed away.

Test of Civil Service.

Immediately after election I remarked in these columns that the first real test of civil service would come during the early months of 1905. The retiring council outlined the plan of procedure, which the disciples of spoils will follow, by abolishing a number of positions so as to clear the way for the appointment of new men to fill places which will subsequently be recreated. The plan looks simple and easy enough on the face of it, but I have a theory that it will presently run foul of some very serious snags. In the first place, the charter contains a provision that any new positions that are created subsequent to the adoption of the civil service amendment, must be filled under civil service rules, whereby it occurs that the favorites that are booked for an easy entry will find themselves up against an awkward barrier. Then there are the Civil Service Commissioners to be reckoned with. Several of them are lawyers who are fully competent to take judicial notice of a scheme that amounts to nothing more or less than an effort to get around the charter; and under the power which that document gives them of adopting rules of procedure it may occur to them to adopt a rule, which I am told exists in other civil service cities, to-wit: that when a place is abol-

ished the occupant, if in good standing, is restored to the list of those certified for that class of work, with a position well up toward the top-experience being a large factor in eligibility. Of course, if the old council, or the new, should be actuated by a bona fide motive of economy, and should cut out places that are superfluous, that is another story, and all citizens that desire lower taxes—and who does not? -would bid them go on with the good work. Without doubt there are some departments where a considerable change in the personnel is to be desired. and it may be unfortunate that there is not some quiet and easy way to bring this about; but the civil service law is designed for the greatest good of the greatest number-the taxpayers, whose only interest in the matter is to have efficient people in these positions. A general law invariably works seeming hardships here and there, but the principle of the merit system is too important and too serious for the people to submit to any form of trickery to secure its evasion, lest it may lead up to its ultimate overthrow.

Theodore's Opportunity.

The new Council has organized with Theodore Summerland, of the Fourth Ward, as President. Up to the present time, Theodore has never been recognized as an exponent of the non-partisan idea in city politics, and the newspapers and public were therefore properly astonished when he gave the chairmanship of his most important committee, the Board of Public Works, to Kern, an able Democrat, and made Dr. Houghton, an independent, chairman of the committee on supplies. Kern is also made chairman of the committee on sewers, which will be a post of special significance during the next two years. His committees throughout are-with possibly the one exception that he should not have placed Blanchard on the Board of Public Workswisely arranged, and show a purpose on the part of the new President to get the best possible results in public work. Mr. Summerland has taken a sane and sensible view of the situation, and his course is to be commended. A new precedent has been established that may be used with advantage hereafter. Score a large white mark to Theodore's

The New Commissions.

The Mayor has announced his commissions-at least for Police, Fire, Park and Health. The Civil Service, Library and Water Boards are arranged, as all should be, viz: so that one man goes out at a time, leaving some experienced men always on hand. The appointments are some of them excellent, some fair, and several of the sort that occasion a desire on the part of the public to "be shown." All, however, are men of clean personal record, and all may, I think, be depended upon to do their best. Several were evidently chosen because they were old friends and neighbors of the Mayor, and several to placate his immediate political following. Considering them as a whole, it must be admitted that they are not quite up to the standard that the Mayor's friends understood he would attain when he announced it was to be a "business administration"; but, on the other hand, they are considerably better than was to be expected from the old-fashioned political administration.

The Mayor's Message.

But if the commissions are something of a disappointment, the first official utterance of Mr. Mc-Aleer certainly deserves the highest praise, both as to the selection of topics and the treatment they receive. It should be read and studied by every citizen, and should be used by the Council as the general outline of its policy during the next two years. He does not content himself with generalization, but specifies in detail a number of directions in which reform and improvement is needed in the administration of the city's affairs. Particularly gratifying are his references to the water question, to the development of the park system, and his expression of fidelity to the civil service amendments of the charter. Of the latter he says with truth, that the people have expressed themselves in no uncertain tone and that their wishes must be obeyed to the letter. The first real test of the Mayor's attitude toward the civil service, however, will come when a vacancy occurs presently in the Civil Service Board. His action at that time will be subjected to close scrutiny, and it is to be hoped that it will show the same devotion to the principle that is set forth in his message.

Chamber of Commerce President.

I understand that J. O. Koepfli, who is now president of the Municipal League, is to resign from that important post early in the year and take the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce. He has been for several years a director in the latter institution, and is now second vice-president. Frank King, who is first vice-president, is unable, through lack of health, and on account of his large business responsibilities, to take the place which would, in the natural order of things, come to him this year, and Mr. Koepfli will be advanced to the presidency. The honor is deservedly valued as one of the greatest in the city, for the Chamber of Commerce is an institution of power and dignity and of unique fame; but the honor is none too great for the man to whom it is to fall. This community contains many successful business men, many men of integrity, many that are cultured, and many that enjoy a high degree of personal popularity; but it is rare indeed that all these qualities are found united in one man as they are in J. O. Koepfli. His service during the past two years as president of the Municipal League gave ample demonstration of his shrewdness and diplomacy, and his courage never failed even at the most difficult issues. The League will miss him sorely, and will be put to it to find anyone to fill the place he leaves vacant.

Child Labor Legislation.

The civic and commercial bodies of the State are endeavoring to get together on some kind of a child labor law for California that will put it where it belongs among the progressive commonwealths,



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where this iniquity is abolished. At the present time California ranks with the Southern States as far as adequate legislation is concerned, although public sentiment would never tolerate here the atrocities that are to be witnessed in the child-labor factories of that region. We have a child labor law now on the books, but it is practically a dead letter, as it provides no satisfactory method of determining the age of the child. The difficulty with this form of legislation is to devise a scheme that is practical and effective, and at the same time does not interfere with the forms of labor in which children of proper age may participate, without injury to themselves or to society. As yet California has no great manufacturing interests that can advantageously make use of child labor; hence the present evil is not a serious one. Now is the time, before the deadly force of a "vested interest" puts in an appearance, to secure legislation that will protect coming generations in their health and opportunity for education.

Seats in the Sunset Club.

There are, I believe, three vacant seats to be filled in the Sunset Club this year, the election taking place on the third Friday in January. To be selected for membership in this notable organization is a distinction that any citizen may be proud to achieve: and although actual campaigning in any man's behalf is tabooed, the friends of the various candidates—if so they may be termed—naturally do more or less quiet talking in their behalf. I have heard some eight or ten different men mentioned for these three places, so it is evident that not everybody will be satisfied at the outcome.

The Jonathan Club Murmurs.

There is considerable impatience among the members of the Jonathan at the long delay in getting into the new quarters—a delay which must be laid to the blame of the contractors of the building. The date originally set when the lease was entered into was January 1, 1904. That was presently advanced to June 1, and then moved along by easy stages to November and December and then to January, 1905. The furnishing committee now hopes to be ready by

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the middle of February, but it may be March 1, or even later. In the meantime the membership of the club has greatly increased, in spite of the fact that the initiation fee was doubled and then doubled again. The old quarters are altogether too small, and are unsatisfactory in many ways. However, the new home of the club will be so commodious and so beautiful that the awkward experience of the present will soon be forgotten when once the removal is accomplished.

Yorke Slashes Brook.

Rev. Peter C. Yorke is slashing again at the Times. Nothing that the Times does pleases Rev. Peter C. Yorke. The latest rush of literary denunciation is due to an article on fasting and abstinence written by Harry Brook, in the hygienic department. Here is Rev. Peter C. Yorke's scalper: "An unconscionable humbug named Harry Brook contributes several columns of unmitigated slush to the weekly supplement (of the Times). Doubtless, Harry thought that as his department is read only by the feebleminded, he could safely attack the Church." That is the opening broadside. Rev. Peter C. Yorke closes in this wise: "Will he (General Otis) fire Brook as he fired Brininstool? Or will he merely swear at him as he swore at Chapin? Anyhow, Harry is a muddy Brook and he ought to be diverted from his present course."

Harmony's Plans.

Miss Mary L. O'Donoughue, one of the most talented pianists and organists on the coast, has accepted the proposition of the new Harmony club to become pianist of the organization. I am told that the Harmony membership is very much in earnest in its determination to "show" the Treble Clef club. There are now nearly fifty singers enrolled in the "Harmony" ranks, many of them, I am told, coming from the old Thursday club which was under the leadership of J. P. Poulin last year. Meanwhile I can assure them that they will have to work. When Will Lott takes hold of the Treble Clef there will be an active rival in the field.

Will Try the "Creation."

What's this? The Apollo club to sing Haydn's "Creation"! Not satisfied with murdering "The Messiah'' this unwieldy band of singers is seeking more fields to ensanguine with the blood of musical masterpieces. Judged from the artistic point of view mixed choral societies have not done as well in Los Angeles of late as either the men's or women's musical clubs. I suppose that the Apollo club will come back with the argument that the receipts of the last concert when "The Messiah" received its awful handling, were \$1500 while the expenses were \$1200. Well, a highwayman might justify his existence by employing the same argument.

Exodus of the Talented.

A session of the Legislature at Sacramento invariably causes an exodus of four or five of the most talented newspaper writers of the city and this year forms no exception. The Times correspondent this year is E. F. Dishman, a thoroughly good newspaper man, whose weakness is the "night police" detail and whose ability as a rapid copy producer

is known in all of the offices. The Herald has sent John Parkinson, a comparative newcomer, who will have his work cut out for him considering the longer experience and wider acquaintance enjoyed by the other correspondents. The Examiner has sent Otheman Stevens, otherwise "The Colonel" who can write entertainingly and who knows how to get news. Al Searl, the inimitable, omnipresent and omniscient "center of town man" for the Express, is representing that paper. Scarl knows everybody and understands the legislative and senatorial ropes. The Record's man, A. S. Petterson, is a splendid newspaper man. He was on Mayor Snyder's board of health, and is an enthusiastic Iroquois member, but his Democracy cuts no figure with the Republican members from the south.

The Ellis Bribery Case.

The outcome of the Ellis trial, which is in the nature of a drawn battle, was not unexpected by those that are familiar with the tremendous difficulties that lie in the way of a successful prosecution for bribery. According to the reports, the jury on

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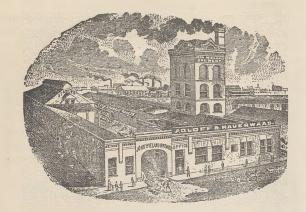
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the first vote was seven to five in favor of acquittal, and at the end was nine to three on the same issue. Lawyers that have studied the subject tell me that there is only one felony in the list that is more difficult to demonstrate to a point of a conviction than bribery, and that one is the violation of the seventh commandment. Public sentiment has been educated to the belief that the man who offers the bribe is fully as bad as the officer who accepts it, and the law embodies this view. The average man taking a hasty survey of a transaction of this character feels that no one is injured particularly except the fellow who is called upon to "give up," and that he is entitled to no sympathy for his loss. The wrong inflicted is not clear-cut and easily appreciated, like the wrong in stealing or assault. At the end of an argument the average man-and jurors are distinctively average men-will admit that the public must in the long run suffer if their representatives allow themselves to be influenced by bribes; but the injury is vague and far removed. The issue seems to be rather one of an abstract principle than of immediate and concrete force. Moreover, the law in this State and in many others is honeycombed with technicalities that render a conviction almost a phenomenon. The Ellis case was complicated by politics and by fights between contractors. It happened that the indictment came in the face of a fierce political campaign, in which the contractors played a lively part. Ellis was defended by the ablest men engaged in that line of practice, who made adroit use of every loophole that a politician-made law provided for his escape; and the whole force of Werdin's office and the allied contractors was marshalled in his behalf. Under these circumstances, it is no discredit to the District Attorney's office that a conviction was not secured on the first trial, and a hung jury may be regarded almost as a moral victory. In this connection the Graphic wishes to express its confidence in, and admiration for, the young man who is managing the legal affairs of the county, Captain Fredericks, an able, conscientious and tireless public servant. His administration of the office thus far has not only been free from error, but it has established a high standard for his successors to emu-

The Pilgrim's Club.

Speculation is still rife at Avalon as to the future of the stately building which is now nearing completion just behind the Metropole Hotel. It is a very handsome structure of massive granite, and, indeed, is by long odds the most substantial building on the island. This is the institution to which I alluded some weeks ago as the New York Rod and Gun Club. That, I now understand, is a misnomer. It is to be called the Pilgrim's Club and is designed by its promoter, Mr. Levey, of New York, as an accommodation for rich men with sporting proclivities. No expense has been spared on the building and the entourage is to be most luxurious. Nine thousand dollars was paid for the lot on which the clubhouse stands, and, if I mistake not, this is the biggest real estate deal transacted at Avalon since the Bannings bought the island. The contract price for the building was \$23,000, but as the building grew Mr. Levey found many ideas of improvement which

he ordered put into effect, necessitating an additional outlay of some \$15,000; the furniture is to cost about another \$15,000, and all told, before the club is opened, an expenditure of some \$60,000 or \$70,000 will have been made. In the meanwhile, Mr. Levey, who is reported to be several times a millionaire, keeps his own counsel, leaving the Avalonites all the guesses they choose about the future of his establishment. All that is known is that Mr. Levey has already engaged a portion of his staff; that a Mr. Wood, formerly of Santa Barbara, has been installed as manager of the club, and that a chef, at a salary of \$200 a month, has been engaged. Mr. Levey spends his money freely; he is having a launch built at Avalon and a fast steam yacht built in the East for the use of himself and his friends between the island and the mainland, where he and his associates have purchased an extensive tract of land below Bolsa Chica as a hunting preserve. All sorts of stories are told as to the lavishness with which Mr. Levey spends money; in one week he is said to have dropped \$42,000 on the races in San Francisco and never to have winked an eyelid. In the meanwhile he is said to be a very pleasant gentleman, unassuming and affable, making friends wherever he goes. To those who have won his confidence Mr. Levey explains that there is no mystery whatever about the Pilgrims. It is simply to be a center of enjoyment for wealthy men who are in search of distraction and recreation. The clubhouse will be a model of comfort, with an unexceptionable cuisine; there will be all kinds of sport for himself and his friends, from shooting ducks on the mainland to catching tuna off Avalon, and whatever diversions in the Avalon clubhouse the members in their exclusive privacy may desire. Any reporter who hopes to glean additional information from Mr. Levey will have his work cut out for him.

Teaching the Alphabet.

Professor Hale ,the astronomer, who has been in charge of the construction of the observatory on Mt. Wilson, is the proud father of a small son with a mind of his own. Some well-intentioned relatives had been instructing the three-year-old Hale in the mysteries of the alphabet. I had believed that children no longer were taught the alphabet, at least as to the elementary foundation of learning to read, but this educational heresy was being impressed upon the youthful Hale mind and this anecdote seems to serve as a striking example of the folly of troubling children with letters that can convey nothing to their minds. The Hale infant had faithfully absorbed the first seven letters of the alphabet and reproduced them by rote. "Well, sonnie," he was asked, "you surely haven't forgotten what follows "Yep, I know," said the child, "it's whiz!"

A Plain Tale of Ducks.

This week's story on Johnny Wray is a small matter of ducks and butting in. A few days ago John, who is an expert with the shotgun and rifle as he is with the fishing rod, went duck hunting. Ducks were scarce, to put a hard day's work into a section of a sentence, and the total bag was six. John is a hospitable soul and it occurred to him to send the ducks to the Palace, have them cooked in fine style and invite a few friends to dinner. Action was suited J. J. LONERGAN

JOHN KOSTER

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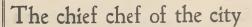
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to the thought, and at the appointed time Johnny and five other good judges de cuisine sat down to a well-appointed table and waited for the ducks to be brought on. Just at the psychological moment along happened a mutual acquaintance who persistently refused to observe that he was intruding on a dinner party and that it was not a haphazard gathering. The man stayed on and on, and Johnny got desperate. Leaving the table he hunted up the waiter and told him to serve up another duck. Very well, sir. Then he returned to the table and told the newcomer that they were having a duck dinner; they had an extra duck and would he be so good as to dine with them?

Would he! It is scarcely necessary to record the answer.

Just then Wray observed the waiter making frantic signals. Mr. Fieber wanted to see him and would he step to the kitchen.

"The fact is," said he, "we are about out of ducks. We have only one and that is not fit to serve, really. It has been kept too long."

John went out and viewed the remains. They were of an ancient and honorable spoonbill in the middle stages of decay. The case was a desperate one, for the unbidden guest had been told that there was an extra duck.

"Never mind," said Wray, "go ahead and cook the old fellow; but be sure to serve it to the newcomer. It's the only thing we can do."

It was so ordered. "Be sure you serve the spoonbill to the last man in," said Mine Host Jacob; and the waiter laid his forefinger to one side of his nose and said, "Drust me for dot," in his artless Germar way, and Wray went back to the table.

In due time the ducks appeared and none ate hear tier than the newcomer, who praised between mouthfuls the skill and good judgment of his host in shooting such particularly fine birds.

But Wray, somehow, did not seem to be eating much. "You fellows go ahead and never mind me," he said. "I'm not very hungry, anyway." Which was gospel truth; for before him lay the ancient spoonbill! Wray was the last man to sit down to the table, and the waiter had literally obeyed the instructions given him.

Now Wray has been in politics too long not to be a good loser, and he paid the bill with a straight face and a cheerful countenance. But no man ever kicked himself harder than did Wray after the carnage was over. And the butter-in? Why, he will happen along again, doubtless.

Men in Women's Clubs.

Again the mooted question: "Shall men be admitted to women's clubs?" has come up, and I understand it will be discussed at the coming State Federation meeting, which will be held in Los Angeles early next month. It seems many of the women are anxious that their husbands, brothers and sweethearts should be recognized, and that the idea of ex-

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clusiveness shall be obliterated from the club spirit. There is a desire on the part of some that a plan be devised whereby men may become members, honorary, associate, or active, of the organizations usually controlled by women. It is true that in many cases the women's clubs have paid men the compliment of voting them honorary members, and this plan is not, on the whole, a bad one. At the same time leaders in clubdom believe the movement ought to stop there. Certain organizations, such as the Civic League, for instance, may find it advantageous-and doubtless it is-to have men and women working side by side, for the cause which all have at heart, but for the regulation woman's club, there is no question with those who have given the subject careful thought, that the opening of their doors to men members would be neither profitable nor desirable for either the men or the women. For instance, what time has the business or professional man for attending the Afternoon Study Club's meetings, and would he, in most cases, be in position to devote himself to such study? The club having an object calculated to utilize the energies of both men and women will naturally draw both; but if I am to trust the judgment of many intelligent minds, masculine and feminine, the proposition to obliterate all lines of distinction between men's and women's clubs will never become generally popular.

Mrs. Lowe's Tact.

And that suggests, by the way, that one may remark upon the readiness with which most of the women's clubs welcome men visitors at almost any of their meetings. There scarcely is a session of the Friday Morning Club not attended by one or more gentlemen guests, and the programs often justify the issuance of invitations to men, since the club deals largely with themes that are of general moment. When the biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs was held here men were welcomed, the only drawback being that the seating capacity of the auditorium was hardly sufficient to accommodate more than the actual delegates, and a large number of women who did not happen to have this distinction were crowded out. Mrs. Rebecca Lowe, now Mrs. Gunther, who was then president of the Federation, was particularly gracious to all men visitors, and I remember that she was tactful enough, on one occasion, to stem the tide of an embarrassing situation which threatened to make two mascuuline invaders wish they were many miles away. It was just as the Federation began a discussion of the color question, which was then agitating the club world from center to circumference, that a tall, spare woman from the central part of Illinois arose with a dramatic gesture and pointed to a spot beneath the gallery on the opposite side of the auditorium. "Madame President," she began, "I see two men siting over in that corner." In the hush which followed one might have heard a pin drop. The woman from Illinois waited with outstretched finger and lisened for the president's voice. Mrs. Lowe caught her breath, opened her mouth and then closed it again. Then her innate tact came to the rescue. The gentlemen on my left," she said, with the most ascinating of smiles, "are our invited guests. We are pleased to have them with us. I will now hear the delegate from Massachusetts.'

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Federation Meeting.

It has now been settled, almost beyond a doubt, that the session of the Federation will take place in the Women's Club house, and the program is to include addresses by notable club workers from both Northern and Southern California. Owing to the fact that the committee to arrange for speakers is so widely scattered, some delay has been occasioned, but final arrangements are now being completed. Mrs. J. W. Orr, of San Francisco, is chairman of the program committee, and the other members are Mrs. Shepherd, of Redlands, and Mrs. W. J. Washburn, of Los Angeles.

Bishop Conaty's Activity.

The home-coming of Bishop Conaty has been a signal for renewed effort along many lines for the Catholics of Southern California, but I doubt if he will officiate at any more generally interesting event in the coming year than the dedication of the Brownson House, which takes place at 3 p. m. tomorrow. This settlement house, which is situated at 711 Jackson street, is a monument to the humanity of certain prominent Catholic women, who remember that there are persons less fortunate than themselves. Miss Mary Workman is president of the Brownson House Association. About \$4,000 has been put into the house, which, while plain, is commodious, and well adapted to the purpose for which it is intended. It has four large rooms, capable of being transformed into a hall or chapel, with an altar at one end. Classes of children are taught at the settlement house, and arrangements have been made for masses and Sunday school to be held each Sunday. I learn that construction of the building of the Academy of the Immaculate Heart, at Hollywood, will be begun probably within a month. This structure is to be a splendid building, and will be made to serve the combined purpose of an academy, a convent and a novitiate.

Mercantile Place.

Located between Fifth and Sixth streets, the place seems familiar, yet how many of us will recognize in where now stands handsome Mercantile Place the site of the old Spring Street School. The change during the past year has been great. The old school is gone and one of the most ideal shopping districts in the city has been erected where it stood. A new street, between Fifth and Sixth streets, extending from Spring street to Broadway, has been opened, upon either side of which a row of beautifully-appointed stores has been built. There are thirty stores, all equipped with the most modern improvements, fine fixtures and attractive decorations, and most of them are occupied by well-known business firms. There are also about forty offices in the different buildings-large, sunny apartments, which are taken largely by professional people.

The entrance to Mercantile Place is especially pleasing. As you turn off Broadway you step into a bit of old world street, as it were. The thoroughfare is not too wide, is lined on both sides with potted palms. The place is so clean and well arranged that one is delighted and wishes he might always

shop in just such a place.

The property, with present improvements, is said to have cost \$100,000, and is owned by a corporation

of Los Angeles business men, all of whom seem to have great faith in the city and its future. The able manager, Mr. C. Wesley Roberts, has his office at 203 Mercantile Place and is always glad to see visitors and show them about. In fact, his friends say he is at his best when telling of the many advantages offered the public in this fine business center.

When you are sauntering through this new street stop and visit the art store of Ray Skelton & Co., importers and collectors. The exhibit in their art gallery is fine and can be viewed any time during the day after 9 o'clock. Mr. Skelton has in his possession and on exhibition the only Paul Rink on the open market in the world, all other works of this famous man being owned by private collectors or galleries. Mr. Skelton has also both pictures taking the Gold and Silver Medals at the St. Louis Exposition. Mr. Skelton has just left for the East to meet his collector and promises the people of Los Angeles upon his return to have the finest collection of water colors in America.

There is every prospect of a fine future for Mercantile Place. Four years ago no one would have believed that the shopping district could have moved south so quickly. Now the shopping district extends fully two blocks farther south, and the southward movement shows no sign of stopping. The Place is within a block and a half of the new Interurban depot of the Huntington lines, and when that great building is completed the interurban lines will drop thousands of people each day from all parts of Southern California, giving the place additional advantages in the way of securing trade.

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Mme. Blauvelt Talks of the Singing Voice.

Mme. Blauvelt, the concert singer, who has returned from London for her annual tour of the principal American cities, expressed herself most interestingly to a London interviewer on the natural gifts and cultivated technique of singing.

"Is a fine voice a gift of nature or acquired?"

"Now, that is a difficult question to answer; but one thing I do say, and that most decidedly, is that though the gift of the voice may be an accident of nature, singing is most emphatically not. It is an art that requires years to perfect.

"Everybody seems to have a different theory about the singing voice. Most persons claim that it is due to an accidental formation of the larnyx, but I assert that it is a supreme thing given by a Su-

preme Being.

"Singing as an art is both easy and difficult. It is easy because you always have but one tone at a time. But it is difficult because absolute purity of that tone is required. The singer cannot hear herself. She can judge of her ability only by the effect she produces upon her hearers. The sculptor has his statues by which he can judge his work; the musician his own playing; but the voice is the most psychic and spiritual of things—it is only sounds, and then it is gone.

"A voice is God-given; a singer is heaven-born. If the mentality is not there, no movement of throat muscles could ever make a real musical sound. If

a singer were to lose her mind the tones of the voice would still be there, but there would be no rhyme or rhythm in what she sings. Next to the natural voice to be successful as a singer one must have brains. Without them, though the voice possesses every qualification absolutely necessary to achieve success, the singer will reach only a certain point and can go no further. To be truly great requires more than a beautiful voice. The singer must be so filled with the thoughts and moods of the master that the voice receives a soul, and that soul penetrates into the hearts of her hearers and rouses their enthusiasm.

"After all, art is only interpretation, but one cannot interpret the great harmonies and melodies of the great composers unless one is master of the natural instrument. That is why I insist that proper training is of so great importance. The trouble with many singers of the present day is that they seek after effects, and endeavor to perform feats of technique and tempo, regardless of interpretation. The voice is not an orchestra and should not be strained to do impossible things. Each note, as it drops from the singer's throat, should be as fine, as round and as faultless as a pearl."

The Country Club has been a center of social activity for the past week or so. Mrs. W. A. Barker gave a children's party on December 30, entertaining about sixty guests. Dr. Guy Cochran gave a dinner on December 31, and then came the New Year's golf handicap. Mrs. Granville MacGowan entertained about thirty friends, at luncheon on Thursday of this week, and the club dance is set for the evening of Friday, January 6. Mr. Hicks will give a tea on Saturday, January 14, when about fifty guests are expected.

Where There is no Telephone

A business man was dying in a closed and darkened room, And he knew that just before him oped the portal of the tomb, Yet a smile shone o'er his features. o'er his features pinched and gray,

As he turned unto a watcher, low and broken words to say.
"I am going," so he whispered, "to the land beyond our ken
Where the phantoms meet the phantoms in the shadowhaunted glen,

Yet, although the darkness deepen, I am glad, and glad alone, For I'm going-yes, I'm going-where there is no telephone;

Where no telephone I'll find Of the ceaseless-tinkling kind, Of the tinkling-tankling-tinkling, Till it sets your hair to crinkling—Of the never quiet. never!
Of the whoop-'er-up forever—

Of the answer-every-minute till you all but lose your mind-

Answer men who want to know, Answer women with a woe,

Answer, answer, answer, while your business has

Answer chaps with naught to say, Answer, answer all the day,

While the bell keeps on a-tinkling in its telephonic way.

I am going—'twill be Heaven—'' Then he sank back with a moan.

He had reached his place of resting, where there is no telephone.

-Alfred J. Waterhouse in Sunset Magazine for January.

Over The Teacups

Now that the world has settled back to the routine of everyday life—now that we are done talking about Santa Claus and the Pasadena Tournament of Roses—I suppose one should begin to think about Lent, and thus thinking, get in all the wicked excitement possible against the time when we must sit in sack cloth and ashes, like little Sally Waters, "crying and weeping for what we have done." Until the season of repentence, society will have little time for serious consideration. The coming weeks will be gay with many affairs.

That Mrs. David Murray, of Salt Lake City, will be in Los Angeles probably the remainder of the winter is pleasing to her large number of friends here. Mrs. Murray will be the guest of her sister, Mrs. Jack Jevne, at 987 Arapahoe street, and her coming, I take it, will be the signal for considerable extra entertaining. Before her marriage Mrs. Murray was Miss Olga Marix. She and Mrs. Jevne are twins and look as much alike as peas in a pod. They were two of the prettiest girls that Los Angeles knew at the time when they were buds, and both had many admirers. They served as maids of honor to one of the Fiesta queens, and it was while Miss Olga was doing duty in this capacity that David Murray saw her for the first time. He had come here from Denver for a short stay, and had remained for the Fiesta, all unconscious that fate had planned the whole affair for his future domestic happiness. The young man sought an introduction, but owing, probably to the shortness of his stay, was unable to find a mutual friend who could present him. He returned to Denver, but the vision of the Los Angeles girl remained in his mind, and presently fate again favored him, for she had gone to Denver to visit, and one day he saw that same pretty face on the street of his home city. This time he was not to be baffled in his effort to secure an introduction, and the rest of the story you may tell to suit your own



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In view of Mrs. Murray's visit it seems a little unfortunate that the young women whom Mrs. Felix C. Howes chaperoned to Europe last summer should have tarried in the East, for at least one of the number belonged to the set in which Mrs. Murray formerly moved. Miss Bird Chanslor is to prolong her absence from Los Angeles for a time, being the guest of friends in Joliet, Ill., and Miss Winifred Llewellyn will be at Niles, Ohio, indefinitely. Miss Howes tarried for two weeks in Chicago, while her mother came home, arriving here the latter part of the week. It will be remembered that Miss May Newton, the other member of the party, was called to her home in Pasadena early in the season by the death of her mother. The European trip was extended, and those who were fortunate enough to remain for the completion of their plans visited many countries in the course of their travels.

When I prophesied a few weeks ago that we soon should hear about the engagement of a popular newspaper man of local fame I scarcely expected the pleasure of giving it publicity this soon. Today I am privileged to say that Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Narver announce the engagement of their daughter, Anna Lois Narver, to Sherrill Osborne. The date for the wedding will be made known later. Indeed, I believe no definite time has yet been set. Both the prospective bride and groom have been students at Stanford, although Miss Narver entered the university after Mr. Osborne had graduated. She is an attractive girl of the brunette type, and literary in her tastes. Before going to Stanford she graduated with high honors from the local high school, and was considered an unusually bright student. She and Miss Edith Osborne, a sister of the groom-to-be, who is now at Stanford, have been friends for years. Sherrill Osborne has been so long in the newspaper field of Southern California that his name is almost inseparable from the thought of journalism. Seventeen years ago he began work on the Evening Express, of which his father, Col. H. Z. Osborne, was then editor. He has been identified with the paper in one capacity or another from that time until his resignation about two months ago. It is true that he attended the university, but even while in the North his connection with the Express was not severed, and readers of the paper recognized his work in many an article that appeared in the course of his college days. Rising steadily after his return to a permanent position here, he finally became city editor, and had held that place for something like four years, when he determined to give up the daily newspaper grind and go into a journalistic venture of his own. The latter seems to have prospered thus far. Announcement of the engagement just now is timely, in view of the fact that there are many Stanford people in Los Angeles, and there will be much interest in both Northern and Southern California regarding the approaching marriage. Miss Narver, by the way, was maid of honor for Miss Clara Rood, who was married Thursday evening in Pasadena to Fred M. Hammond of that city. The wedding was one of the season's notable affairs for Pasadena.

Art, to be followed according to her own independent ideas, will claim Mrs. Anna Loring Bancroft henceforth, so I am told. Socially and artisti-

cally, Mrs. Bancroft has for years been well known in Los Angeles, and it will be recalled that doleful expressions of regret were heard on every hand when about two years ago she suddenly gave up her quaint, picturesque studio on Main street to bury herself in a local mercantile house. studio, with its history which dated back to the old pueblo days, was the pride of those who appreciate the old landmarks. It was the first brick building ever erected in Los Angeles and was owned for a long time by Governor Downey. After Mrs. Bancroft abandoned it part of the structure was torn away to accommodate a fruit stand, and the rest is to be removed in the near future. Mrs. Bancroft, pining for her former surroundings, has determined to open an office in the Grant building and undertake house furnishing according to artistic ideas. Mrs. Bancroft belongs to a family that has for many years stood high in the social life of the city, and until she began devoting herself so strictly to work she was much in the gay whirl. Her scores of friends will be glad to learn that she has turned again to her old love, and that there is prospect for the opening of another studio in the near future.

The coming of Miss Henrietta Hatfield Dunn to Los Angeles has sent a quiver of excitement to the heart of many a society bud. Miss Dunn, you know, is the famous painter of "Frivolous Girls," and she has portrayed the beauties and defects of fair subjects from many a section of the country. Now she will paint California girls, selecting models that will add legitimately to her collection of the frivolous fair ones. She will need types of California girls, and will be looking about for them. So we shall expect to see Geraldine's nose, Marguerite's lips, and Gwendolin's eyes all made into a composite picture of the frivolous girl from California. The day is about passed, I believe when women object to being called frivolous, providing the appellation is not permitted to stand alone without any of the embellishments that pronounce her also fair, captivating, and companionable. Miss Dunn herself may well come under this head, and she is not disturbed by the fact. Indeed, it is said that she has found material for more than one of her famous pictures in her own pretty features. One thing is certain, she knows how to smile, and that is an accomplishment of which any woman may well be proud. Miss Dunn is accompanied here by her mother, and the two will remain throughout the remainder of the winter. They will be petted socially, it is said, and no doubt many smart affairs will be given in their honor while they are in Southern California.

Members of the younger set attended a charmingly appointed dancing party, given the first of the week, at Cumnock Hall, by Mrs. W. G. Nevin and her daughter Helen. Mrs. M. M. Potter was with Mrs. Nevin, and the affair, while informal, was one of the bright spots in the after-holiday week.

[&]quot;Is that you, Santa Claus?" said Miss Verifligh, conscious, despite the darkness, that some one was in the room.
"Of course it is," replied the saint. "Whom did you expect?"

Lucille's Letter

My Dear Harriet:

"Great weather for ducks!" we have had, eh? And for several kinds of geese as well, who delight in seeing a poor, forlorn female picking her way through a small canal of mud, and invariably remark, "A beautiful shower, wasn't it? More to come, I hope!" Well, of course, it was a good thing, but if you aren't comfortably clad for a rainy day it doesn't fill one with an unmixed joy. Which leads me on to remark that one's temper is much improved during the aforesaid stormy downpour if one has on one's feet the proper caper in the way of shoes. And let me tell you right here, Harriet, my child. that you never will never know what solid comfort means till you purchase unto yourself a pair of Weatherby & Kayser's buckskin shoes. This firm has been selling these soft yellow shoes for six years now and they have become so universally popular that the firm is kept busy filling orders from all over the United States, and even from Mexico. The uppers are made of chrome-tanned, yellowish buckskin, which is very, very soft, and yet exceedingly tough; in fact, I don't believe there is any "wear out" to them (?); probably when I come to "turn up my toes" to the sound of Gabriel's trumpet I will be discovered in these "self-same buckskin shoes." I was surprised to find they handled them for the tiniest tots of ladies and children, and you can't think how cunning our small daughter looks in her softsoled comfy new shoes.

Yes, indeed, 'tis everything to be warmly, sensibly gowned these cold mornings and I mean to put you on to a good thing in the useful line this very minute. At the Ville de Paris on Broadway they are having a January sale of cheviots and tailor suitings,

With a thoroughness of detail to which other stores are strangers we provide every stitch of clothing the little ones need, asleep or awake



Coulter Dry Goods Co.

317-325 South Broadway

splendid materials, double widths and real mannish-looking cloth for ladies' tailor-mades, which are cut down in price, all the way from \$2 to 85 cents a yard. It is simply a grand chance to get a first-rate golf suit or coat or cloak made up of this most expensive material for away less than half price. And you can have it all silk-lined for the reduced rate, too, if you seize the opportunity, as the "Ville" is holding its annual sale of the loveliest silks, that originally brought a dollar and a half a yard, now for 85 and 75 cents per. You can therefore, you see, have a dainty silk shirt-waist suit made up for the price of a cotton or woolen one. Oh! these are great sale days in the stores, as I told you only last week. The windows, if not the "woods," are full of them.

In Coulter's big store they are having a slashing fine cut-rate sale of muslin underwear this week. The big windows are jam full of lacey things with ribbons and bows. Lovely robes de nuit, with more lace and embroideries than muslin background, are selling at half price. Lingerie befrilled and ruffled to an alarming extent selling at "a third off." You can buy a lovely trousseau at Coulter's just this week coming for a very moderate sum of money, so here's a chance for a bride-to-be.

And yet you must understand that though these many and numerous sales of passing attractions are in progress, the dry goods people are just as busy receiving and unpacking bales of the most novel and attractive spring goods. Blackstone's, for instance, has already set up a window full of the most tempting lawn and lace waists, which already seem to breathe of "the good old summer time" and suggest all sorts of dainty girls in soft, white gowns. The waists this season are nearly all made to fasten up the back, which admits of a most alluring display of lace insertions and appliques on the gently undulating bosom. Blackstone's supply is particularly alluring this season; waists describing squares and crosses of finest open work on most fascinating spots. I actually discovered a certain young society man, who shall be nameless, but renowned for his excellent taste, gazing with fascination on a wire-figured lady with one of these peephole waists on. When he caught my eye he came up to me and asked me how on earth girls managed to button up their own backs; but he blushed more than the pink-cheeked waxen maiden. So you can imagine these waists are more than attractive this year. They have all big "leg-of-mutton" sleeves and very long, lacey cuffs, some to the finger tips even, and full-tucked backs with overhanging blouse effects. They are selling any number of those queer "Tommy Atkins" shirt waists in Blackstone's at present. Have you seen them? They look exactly like a man's flannel outing shirt, with turn-down flannel collar and big pocket on the breast front. Very odd and rather trying, I should think, but I was assured that they were Peter Thompson's own, and the very latest fad. Certainly they would be most useful in the country. dear, "' 'nuff said." You will be weary of this chatter, so adios till next week.

Affectionately yours,

LUCILLE.

Figueroa street, January 4th.

Where Are They?

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Dorsey have gone to Mexico for a month's visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. D. Mathuss are at the Glenwood, Riverside, for a short stay.

Mrs. David Murray of Salt Lake City is visiting her sister, Mrs. Jack Jevne.

Miss Snoemaker of Kansas City is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Alphonse Bell.

Mrs. George Parkyns has returned to Los Angeles after a visit of some weeks in the City of Mexico.

Mrs. Norman Elliott and daughter, Miss Hazel Elliott, have gone to San Francisco for a stay of some weeks.

Mrs. Felix C. Howes of 2920 South Figueroa street has returned home after a seven months' tour abroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Rcuben Shettler will be at home to their friends in their new home, 765 South Hoover street, after January 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sutro of San Francisco are the guests of Mrs. Sutro's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Newmark, 927 Beacon street.

Miss Bird Chanslor, who has been abroad for several months, is visiting friends in Joliet, Ill. and is expected home in a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Southworth and Mr. James Lee of Cleveland, who came west for the Clark-Lee wedding, have returned to their home.

Mrs. E. P. Bryan and her two daughters, the Misses Bessie and Minnie Bryan, have returned from their eastern trip and are staying at Hotel Leighton.

Miss Nina Perry has gone east and will spend the winter with friends in New York. Miss Jean Perry is spending a few weeks in Fresno. Both young ladies are the daughters of L. J. Perry of Redondo.

Receptions, Etc.

December 28.—Miss Daisy Moore; tea for Mrs. William Putman Thompson of New Mexico.

December 29.—Mrs. Dwight Whiting, Alamitos Beach; luncheon for guests of Hotel Leighton.

December 30.—Mrs C., F. A. Last, 742 Bonnie Brae street; card party.

December 30.—Mrs. Helen North, 1033 Ingraham street; afternoon for Gamma Beta Sorority of Stanford.

December 31.-Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Stimson, Adams and Scarff streets; watch party.

December 31.—Phi Delta Chi Sorority; dance at Kramer's.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Maier have taken possession of their new home at 1968 Hobart Boulevard. Mrs. Maier will be at home on Wednesdays.

December 31.-Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Newhall, 21 Chester Place; card party.

December 31.—Concordia club; New Year's ball; debut of Miss Rose Germain and Miss Constance Meyberg.

December 31.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wing Taylor, 243 West Adams street; dancing party.

January 1.-Mrs, Emeline Childs, Adams and Arlington streets, received New Year's calls.

January 2.—Judge and Mrs. John Slater Chapman, 203 North Soto street; dinner for Dr. Charles Bagg and Mrs. Bagg.

January 2.-Miss Florence Judd, 1437 Iowa street; card

January 2.—Mrs. M. A. Wilcox, Mrs. Mary Longstreet and Mrs. Randolph Miner, Adams and Hoover streets; tea for Mrs. John W. Dwight of New York.

January 2.—Mrs. Samuel Calvert Foy and the Misses Foy of San Rafael Heights; received New Year's callers.

January 3.—Southern club members; dancing party at Wonman's club house.

January 3.-Mrs. W. W. Stilson, 812 Kensington road; afternoon for members of Eschscholtiza Chapter, D. A. R.

January 4.-Mrs. J. C. Drake, 2715 Hoover street; "at nome."

January 5.-Mrs. Granville MacGowan, 733 Garland avenue; luncheon for Mrs. John W. Dwight at Los Angeles Country club.

Anastasia's Date Book

January 12.-Miss Gertrude Bennette, 622 South Alvarado street: for Theta Delta club.

February.—Mrs. William Parish Jeffries will not be at home in January as formerly announced, as her new home at 976 Arapahoe street is not completed. Mrs. Jeffries will receive Fridays in February.

January 13.—Philolethea club; dancing party at Kramer's.
January 13.—Mrs. Ira O. Smith, Hotel Angelus; reception.
January 14.—Miss Lucile Roberts, 1331 Ingraham street; for Students' Musical club.

Approaching Weddings

January 11.—Joe Campbell to Miss Gertrude Cary of Gardena.

January 25.—Harry Wade Phelan to Miss Stella Donegan, at St. Vibiana's Cathedral.

Recent Weddings

December 28.—W. T. Noble of this city to Miss Benaldine Smith of Indianapolis.

Engagements.

Charles Westcott Brown to Miss Daisy Russell.



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330 SOUTH BROADWAY





Madam Johanna Gadski

Here is Gadski's program for Monday evening:

Classical Arias and Songs.

1.	Widmung Schumann
2.	(a) Liebchen ist daFranz
	(b) Aus meinen grossen schmerzenFranz
3	Erlkonice Grosson Schmerzen
4	Erlkonig Schubert
4.	Meine viebe ist grunBrahms

PART II.

		Miscellaneous M				
1.	Piano	Solo-Wotan's A	Abschie	d und	Feu	erzauber. Wagne
2.	Aria-	"Samson and D	elila''.			Saint-Saer

		comson and benne
3.	(a)	Verborgenheit Hugo Wolf
	(b)	Two Kinderlieder Tanhert
	(c)	"Remembrance" (new), from "Shakespeare"
		Cycle'' Wassall
	(d)	Cacilie

II. Selmar Meyrowitz.

PART III.

Arias and Songs of Richard Wagner.

7	Pieno Colo Dueluda ((Milatana I I 17 17
1,	Piano Solo-Prelude, "Tristan and Isolde"
	TT Cl-1 3.E
	H. Selmar Meyrowitz.
0	Congr. ((III
4.	Songs-"Traume," "Schlummerlied"

3. Aria-"Dich, theure Halle"-"Tannhauser"....

When J. H. Blackwood of the Belasco Theater surprised the natives generally with the announcement that the "Belasco Theater News" would be published every Monday, most men in the profession expressed their opinion about the wisdom of such a venture with a significant lifting of the eyebrows or a shrug of the shoulders. The "News," which is a free publication, without advertising, save that of the Belasco & Mayer enterprises, is, as might be expected, crowded fore and aft and amidships with just such literary efforts as are calculated to turn the crowd toward Main street. Blackwood, in getting his material together, has the advantage of a thorough newspaper training. His piece de resistance each week appears under the title, "The Letters of Mildred." In reading these letters, which are supposedly written by a girl in Los Angeles to her

mother in New York, one finds nothing of the regulation press agent reading matter. Read the exuberant Blackwood writing about Amelia Gardner:

"The leading woman at the Belasco is named Gardner—Amelia Gardner. I'm sure you don't know her, because she has never played a big part on Broadway and I know just how foolish you are in believing that the only good actresses in the world are Annie Russell, Edna Wallace Hopper, Maude Adams and Ethel Barrymore, simply because you adore them."

The Blackwoodian vision of Joseph Galbraith is another. Just listen:

"They have a leading man here, too, a young, fine-looking chap named Joseph Galbraith. He's perfectly lovely when he makes love to Miss Gardner, and I just know if he held me in his arms the way he does her and whispered into my ears that he loved me—well, I'm sure I wouldn't get so very, very much provoked. He's awfully good-looking, with a dash of romance in his manner. He has the dearest lock of almost pure white hair in his blonde head. It is simply irresistible. I know if Faversham, Hackett or Aubrey Boucicault had such a lovely white spot in their hair it would be worth millions and millions of dollars to them. But they haven't. Neither have they such a soft, soothing, silvery voice."

Mother of Moses! Isn't that calculated to make a man say his prayers? Just the same, Blackwood is catching on with the "News." Who couldn't, if he had such lucid gems of thought trickling away from his brain.

The Morosco management has been having packed houses all week with "Old Jed Prouty," interspersed with vaudeville turns. There is a touch in "Old Jed Prouty" that appeals to the heart and soul—although too many people nowadays conduct themselves on the principle that neither is necessary to success in every-day life. Give a touch of humanity and the crowds respond.

Harry Wyatt has been having a big week's business with "The Billionaire." There is a chorus that has been the talk of the town; at least the male portion of it. The company boasts of one dancer, Diamond Donner, who, aside from being the personification of grace, is a fair singer and is an admirable foil for the comedian, Thomas Q. Seabrooke. The fun is clean and wholesome, and there is no plot to bother the brains of the auditors.

Just about once or twice a season the Grand secures a "bucking-the-trust" attraction either from Belasco or Fiske, or some of the stalwart foes of the Frohmans and Klaw & Erlanger that keeps the people who live west of Hill street and south of Seventh street aware that there is a playhouse at First and Main, and this season this reminder will come in the form of David Belasco's "The Darling of the Gods," with Blanche Bates, the Californian star, in the role of Yo San. This production will be seen at the Grand about the middle of this month in all its Belascoesque glory. It is just now holding forth in San Francisco, where the critics have found many good things about it, and there is one thing sure at least—the name "Belasco" stamped upon it means

Orpheum & SPRING STREET
Bet. Second and Third

Both Phones 1447

The Great Orpheum Road Show

Week Commencing Monday January 9.

McIntyre & Heath; Spessardys Bears and Ponies Grace Polatta and Millinery Maids; Frank and Jen Latoua, Comedy Musicians; Clarice Vance, Soprano; Smirl & Kessner, 'The Bellboy and the Maid'; Probst the Great, Imitator of Noises; Albertina Melich and Her Trained Birds...

Prices permanent, 10, 25, 50c.

Matinees Wednesday,

Saturday and Sunday.

Mason Opera House

H. C. WYATT, Lessee and Manager

THREE NIGHTS-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with a Wednesday Matinee

James A. Herne's

Beautiful Play of American Home Life

"Shore Acres"

A Splendid Company—Appropriate Scenery

Seats now on sale, prices 25c, 50c 75c and 1.00. Tels. 70

Mason Opera House

H. C. WYATT Lessee and Manager

Three Nights—Thursday, Friday and Saturday Jan. 12, 13 and 14, with a Saturday Matinee

Henry W. Savage offers

George Ade's Musical Satire

"The Sultan of Zulu"

A Brilliant Cast, Mirthful Melodies and a Bunch of Graceful Girls.

Seats now on sale. Prices 50c., 75c., \$1.00 and \$1.50

Telephones 70

Morosco's Burbank Theatre

Oliver Morosco, Lessee and Manager.

MATINEE

TODAY!

Sixth and Main Sts
PERFORMANCE
TONIGHT!

LAST TIMES OF "Old Jed Prouty."

Week Starting Tomorrow (Sunday Afternoon)

ALL WEEK-Saturday Matinee

The Burbank Stock Company in

"My Wife's Husbands"

A perfectly funny farce comedy by Edwin Milton Royle, author or "Friends" and "Capt. Impudence."

The play may be described as a bundle of sunshiney comedy tied up with a string of bully good comedy situations and enjoyable specialties.

All The Burbank Favorites in the Cast.

Matinee prices 10 and 25c, no higher. Evening Prices 10c, 25c, 35, 50c. Phone 1270.

that there will be something very much out of the ordinary in the general makeup. Blanche Bates has come to the front very rapidly of late and she will be welcome to Los Angeles in her new capacity of a Belasco star. Aside from this things at the Grand will run along for the rest of the season very much as usual, with a couple of minstrel shows and a large number of popular melodramas.

Next week the Orpheum will blossom forth with its especial pet show, "The Orpheum Road Show." McIntyre and Heath (they have begun to announce their "Last time in vaudeville) will be there as usual, and Clarice Vance, the singer of Southern melodies. The rest will be newcomers. After they leave a few stars are promised to brighten the vaudeville firmament from week to week. Dorothy Russell, daughter of the fair and famous Lillian, will make her first appearance here. Her press agent says that she is "Just out of a convent, and oh! so sweet and innocent." Incidentally she sings. Mabel McKinley, also noted to a great extent on account of her relationship, being the niece of President Mc-Kinley, will return, and there will be a great variety of sketches of all sorts and conditions. Will M. Cressy has a new one that he wrote himself for himself, "Town Hall Tonight," and he will be along early in February. The most noticeable thing about the Orpheum bookings, however, is the great number of European acts this season, and although there is an occasional gold brick among these importations, they usually furnish a novelty, and that is the watchword of vaudeville.

The colored servant of Lionel Barrymore has, as is common with his kind, large feet and a propensity for "Cyards." The other day, in passing a shoe store on lower Broadway, he noticed the familiar advertisement in the window, consisting of two pairs of shoes, which were ornamented with three crisp dollar bills. The card below said: "Three of a kind; take a pair." The shoes and the suggestion of jokes appealed strongly to Sam. He entered the store, and after some banter about the "cyard," decided to take two pairs. After he had received the package he handed the clerk \$3, with the facetious remark "dat three of a kind beat two pairs, sah." "Yes," said the clerk, reaching out for the rest of the money, which Sam coolly held in his other hand, "but it doesn't beat four nines."

Put not your trust in popcorn! In the new Frohman production of "Romeo and Juliet" there is a beautiful orchard scene, to which E. H. Sothern, as stage manager, thought he could give the requisite finishing touch. The apple trees are in full ploom, so Mr. Sothern ordered several hundred pounds of popcorn to be scattered beneath the trees to give the appearance of apple-blow. At the first perormance the amount of apple-blow had shrunk considerably since the dress rehearsal. Before the play was finished twenty of the supers were writhing in agony. Doctors had to be summoned, and it looked as though a majority of the retainers of Montague and Capulet would have to be sent to hospitals. Upon investigation it developed that the supers, while waiting for cues, had munched as This much of the popcorn as they could hold. alone might not have proved fatal; but, in their eagerness to prevent an Iroquois disaster, the theater firemen had soaked all the popcorn in fireproof

William Archer, though much more complimentary than most other critics to Mr. Pinero's comedy in disguise, "A Wife Without a Smile," frankly confesses that he is entirely at a loss to guess the meaning or purpose of it. He writes: "Now, in looking back, I can see only one interpretation that seems at all to fit the case—and that is, at many points, a misfit. Can it be that Mr. Pinero is jibing at latterday humor worship as a whole? At the arid, mechanical jocosity which, accepted as a virtue, a philosophy, a 'saving grace' and I know not what, is sapping our sense of right and wrong, of reverence, of decency, and paralyzing all our nobler instincts and purposes. Here, certainly, there is matter for a comedy, and it may have been that which Mr. Pinero intended to write. Perhaps the theme he had in mind was 'Humor, falsely so called.' But the subject is one for a great comedy, rather than a small farce. Intentionally or not, 'A Wife Without a Smile' is a scathing criticism on mere hectic fastidiousness; but that is only a minor branch of the subject. The disease has fifty other phases and reactions which are here not even indicated. If the thought suggested to my mind had been present to Mr. Pinero's, I cannot but think he would have treated it on a larger scale. Yet what other thought inspired him I fail to divine."

Trusty Tips to Theatre Goers.

Orpheum. "The Great Orpheum Road Show." That is what it has been called for years and that is the name which has been the magnet to draw crowded houses to the Orpheum on every visit of the all-star aggregation of the cream of the Orpheum bookings each year. The 1905 Orpheum Road Show will open in Los Angeles on Monday night with the best of the old favorites and some new faces. Mc-Intyre and Heath will be there, of course, with their minstrel act. Clarice Vance, the singer of Southern melodies, will also be heard once more. Trained bears and ponies, presented by Spessardy, will form the necessary animal act. Grace Palotta and her "Millinery Maids" from London, England, have a musical act. The Latonas will expound music and comedy. Smirl and Kessner have a sketch, "The Bell Boy and the Maid," with acrobatic variations. Probst is an imitator of everything that makes a noise. The only holdover will be Albertina Melich and her flock of beautiful trained cockatoos.

Belasco. "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines," beginning Monday evening. This is Ethel Barrymore's great comedy success. The play will be produced here for the first time in the West, as the result of much negotiation between Clyde Fitch, the author, and the Belasco people. George W. Barnum, the stage manager, occupied a similar capacity when Miss Barrymore originally gave this comedy under the management of the Frohmans. Needless to add that the stock company has been giving extra time at rehearsals to make this production a notable Success

Grand Opera House. All this week the Grand has been turning away enough people to fill half a dozen

Grand Opera House

MAIN STREET Bet. First and Second

Telephones: Main 1967, Home 418

THE FAMILY THEATER—

Week Commencing Sunday Matinee, Jan. 8th

Second and Last Week of ROSE MELVILLE in Her Great Play

"SIS HOPKINS"

Matinees. Sunday, Tuesday, and Satu day. Prices 10 and 25c NO HIGHER. Evening prices 10, 25, 50c.

SUNDAY, January 15, "Yon Yonson" for two performances only.

MONDAY, January 16 and balance of week, BLANCHE BATES in "The Darling of the Gods"

Belasco Theatre Belasco, Mayer & Co., Proprietors Main Street bet. Third and Fourth Phones: Sunset 3880; Home 267

Tonight and Tomorrow Night-Last two Times - The Belasco Theatre Stock Company in

"The Man From Mexico"

NEXT WEEK -Clyde Fitch's Most Successful Comedy

"Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines"

Prices: Every night, 25, 35, 50 and 75. Thursday and Saturday matinees, 25, 35 and 50

Simpson Auditorium

Management of L. E. Behymer

ONE NIGHT ONLY MONDAY, JANUARY 9th

The Famous Dramatic Madam Johanna Gadski Soprano

Assisted by HERR SELMAR MESKOWITZ Pianist Presenting Selections and Song Cycles

From WAGNER, SCHUMANN, SCHUBERT. BRAHMS, VERDI and WASSALL.

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Prices \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00

theaters, so great has been the demand for seats at the performances of Rose Melville's "Sis Hopkins." The piece will run one more week, with the usual matinees Sunday, Tuesday and Saturday. Following this "Yon Yonson" will be seen for two performances only, on Sunday, Jan. 15, and then comes Blanche Bates with Belasco's gigantic production of The Darling of the Gods," which will be one of the great dramatic events of the season in Los Angeles.

Morosco's Burbank. The Burbank Stock Company will present "My Wife's Husbands," by Edwin Milton Royle, at the Burbank Theater for the week beginning tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon, and from the appearance of the advance sale there is every reason to expect a great big week's business. The story of the play concerns a beautiful woman who has been married and divorced three distinct and separate times. She falls in love with a handsome

chap and he fairly idolizes her. She does not know that he is president of the "Anti-Divorce League," and he does not know that she has been married three times and then divorced. The following action would be plenty funny without the appearance on the scene of her three ex-husbands, but their coming only makes things the merrier. All the Burbank favorites will be in the cast and the production will run the entire week, with the usual matinee next Saturday.

Mason Opera House. The Ade-Wathall musical satire will begin a short session of merriment at the Mason Opera House next Thursday evening and finish the week with a Saturday matinee. It is not the beautiful scenery, the pretty girls or the Oriental costumes with their vagaries of color that have made "The Sultan of Sulu" the most popular of all comic operas, but its genuine humor and delightfully eatchy music. The words and lyrics are by George Ade and the music is by Alfred G. Wathall. The reserved seats are now on sale.

Mason Opera House. "Shore Acres," the most popular of American plays now being presented on the English-speaking stage, will be given a fine scenic production at the Mason Opera House next Monuday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, January 9, 10, 11. The plot of "Shore Acres" is an exceedingly simple one and its story is almost entirely free from complications. Yet this very simplicity is an element of strength, and when the final curtain falls you will not marvel at the remarkable success achieved by Mr. Herne's masterpiece. The present company is virtually the same that has appeared in "Shore Acres" for the past ten years and includes many players of recognized ability.

Announcement is made that Ben Greet and his company of English players will return to Los Angeles on Monday, January 16, and present a week of repertoire, at Temple Auditorium. Mr. Greet will give all of his plays in the Elizabethan style and will include in his repertoire two presentations of "Everyman," "The Merchant of Venice," "Hamlet" as it is given in the original fashion, constituting a portion of the afternoon and an evening in its entirety; "Much Ado About Nothing," "Twelfth Night," and one presentation of "The Star of Bethlehem." Mr. Greet presents his entire company of players in the original scenery and properties as given during the Elizabethan period.

The Burton Holmes series of Travelogues to be given in this city during the weeks of January 23 and January 30, at Blanchard Hall, will be presented in a different manner from the preceding seasons. Instead of following each subject the night after the previous one, there will be an intermission and three Travelogues will be given here during the first week and four during the second, thus allowing all those who desire to secure season tickets to attend all of the Travelogues without becoming fatigued. The subject this season will include "In London," "Round About London," "Beautiful Ireland," and up-to-date lectures on both "Russia" and "Japan," both of which are exceedingly interesting, owing to the present crisis in the Orient.

In the Musical World

I am extremely appreciative of the receipt of an appreciative missive from Mr. Zinck anent the **Graphic's** appreciative notice of his "Messiah" work—all of which is peculiarly reminiscent of Punch's famous old gag, "So glad you're glad I'm glad."

In the course of his pleasant note, Mr. Zinck explains his adoption of the questioned tempos and criticised curly-queues by pitting Mr. Jahn's German traditions against those of the English school—on the single ground of Handel's Teutonic origin.

If I had not been so carefully brought up, and so persistently admonished to look upon serious things with becoming decorum, I should be inclined to think that Mr. Zinck was trying to poke a little Danish fun. That Handel was Saxon-born is true enough; but Handel's forty-five years of English life and English writing form quite another story. The Germans, of a surety, have no more claim on "The Messiah" than have the English on "Yankee Doodle"—less, indeed, for "Lucy Lockett" lost her pocket ages before "Yankee Doodle" came to town.

There is, doubtless, much misconception on this matter, and it may not be amiss to clear things up. Handel was born at Halle in 1685; was German chapel-trained as a boy; at 21 went to Italy for three years and hobnobbed with Lotti, Scarlatti and Corelli; returned to Germany for a year; visited England in 1710 and produced "Rinaldo"; went back to his Hanoverian kappelmeister duties for a brief spell, and in 1712 finally made the London home which, with his work, became the whole world to him until his death and burial in Westminster Abbey in 1759.

During these forty-seven years, with brief interruptions, Handel's life was wholly English. He was, at various periods, chapel-master to the Duke of Chandos, director of the Royal Academy of Music, music-master to the Royal Princesses and operatic impressario at the King's Theater and Covent Garden. The years 1712 to 1740 were enormously productive—operas innumerable, the shorter oratorios, colossal anthems and Te Deums and typical secular choral works appearing in rapid succession.

But it was not until 1741—after almost thirty years of British life and British spirit—that "The Messiah" saw the light. Written in England, in English, for the English (and the Irish, if you will) and given continually in England under the composer's own direction for seventeen years—Handel was at the organ on April 6, 1759, and died eight days later—in whose minds and hearts and hands are the traditions likely to be?

Germany can boast a glorious musical past, and she has unquestionably the noblest musical present. But neither past nor present can possess itself of the Handelian style—much less of the Handelian traditions. Handel is infinitely more Italian than German as a musical type, and as far removed from Bach as Bellini from Brahms.

This article is being permitted to run to greater lengths than had been intended; but there is involved a question of no small interest to innumerable not over well-informed folk, and I am tempted to cover the essential ground. Just two more points, however, and I am done.

Handel's original score—now in Buckingham Palace Library—has been photo-lithographed (with all the changes, blots, erasures and inserts of the master's own hand), and issued in book form. I have a copy in my possession, and it will give me pleasure to open it to the inspection of any of my readers who care to examine it. In this work lives again the Handel thought and the Handel pen. It is not what Dr. Chrysander thinks, or what any German says, but what Handel himself thought and said. If you say that Handel varied the interpretation during his seventeen years of performance—well, if he did, it was done in England; it was done by, and through and for the English, and the English have the resulting traditions—the Germans, never!

The other word is this: Mr. Zinck says his Novello vocal score of "Every Valley" and "But Thou Didst Not Leave" is marked Andante. Very good. So is Handel's score. But herein lies one of the grave dangers of a purely modern schooling. "Andante" literally means "walking" or "going," and until perhaps the last fifty years it stood essentially for the bright and cheerful. This is not mere opinion, but historic fact. Reference will readily prove it. Moreover, Handel was no such idiot as to set a joyous fact to a tearful tempo.

Handel uses practically five speed terms—Grave. Largo, Larghetto, Andante, Allegro—and it will be seen that this tabular order gives only one faster tempo than Andante, while three slower ones are both available and freely used.

And thus tumbles the German house of cards about the ears of those who all too unwisely plant their pasteboard shanties on a cherished English stamping-ground.

In oratorio and its traditions, and in judgment regarding directing, stand I confident—because I was born in them, lived them, breathed them in their very sanctuary for a generation.

But, the piano? Don't ask me. I know no more about it than about piano music, or opera, or ragtime, or daily-paper music criticism, or latter-day nerve, or money-joy, or professional ethics, or any one of the thousand and one things which rise up to puzzle us the live-long day.

Paderewski? Yes, indeed. But, then, he stands supremely alone; and, if the secret of his power to

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Res. California Hotel Second & Hill Sts. Both Phones 1184 move where all others fail were asked, I would find it in his strong humanity and sweet reasonableness. With abundance of technic and power he never pounds; with the touch of a love-laden man and the heart of a love-sick woman he never grows spoony. And into this charmed sphere comes no other pianist of world renown that I wot of.

And so, men like him—and if the average man will fight his way through two narrow slits in a grim hunt after a pianist you can depend on it that the game is worth the bagging. At least, that is the way it looks to me. But, then, as I have already said, I don't really know anything about it; and perhaps, after all, pounding and spooning are quite the correct thing, don't you know.

I desire to draw the attention of singers in general to two most charming songs from the pen of Mrs. W. F. Botsford, the president of the Monday Musical and, I imagine, our most accomplished amateur pianist. These songs are not in the modern ballad manner, nor are they at all easy from an accompanimental standpoint-though Mrs. Botsford laughs scornfully at the very mention of such an absurd idea—but, with the composer herself or Miss Rogers at the piano, young baritones especially will find some of the most grateful and effective work of their field. Mr. Lott, I doubt not, will include them in his coming recital. The titles are exceedingly apt-"Constancy" and "Inconstancy." The songs are in the hands of all the dealers, and should be forthwith in the hands of all singers.

The Ellis Club gives its second concert of the season at the Simpson next Tuesday evening. Mr. Lott and Ellery's Italian Band are to share solo honors. I hope that arrangements have been made to take a flash-light of Mr. Poulin and Signor Ferullo directing, simultaneously and respectively, Koschat's "Forsaken" and the "Carmen" finale.

FREDERICK STEVENSON.

Impressions on Church Work

I propose to jot down from time to time during the winter months impressions regarding the practical service work of the church choirs of the city. Lest this might seem to be infringing upon the excellent series of articles which is appearing in the Express, it might be well to say that the ground to be covered will be essentially different. Our contemporary's comments have somewhat of an autobiographical character, the appropriate generalization of the context being evidently in perfect keeping with the original intent.

These proposed articles are to be specific to the one service and the work of the service. They will take the churches at haphazard and as they find them. They will have reference not alone to the music itself, the choir and the organist; but the service form (as a practical act of devotion), the minister (as such) and the congregation (as such) will receive fitting and appropriate notice.

And let me say that nothing is further from my mind than any thought of carping criticism. The one hope that I have is that there may be a helping hand given to the ringing out of the adapted, the morbid, the ultra-sentimental, the trivial, the trashy, the secular; and the ringing in of the reverential, the noble, the sacred—as we call it, by way of dis-

tinguishing it from that which, however good in its sphere, is out of place in the house of God.

It is not that I think for one moment that church music should be dull, dry, dreary, academic, scholastic. I feel, on the contrary, that its whole phase and every phrase should be one continuous stream of pure, unsullied beauty—now in chaste simplicity, now in lofty grandeur, now in the frank, everyday tones of the hymn-tune of the people. But its beauty should be the beauty of the church, not of the opera; of the reverent, not of the rollicking; of the love of God, not of the love-lorn swain; of the restful, not of the startling; of the reposeful, yet not of the morbid; of the uplifting, not of the baseley sensuous.

I speak strongly because I feel strongly. Yet there be many, I know, who even as they read will say, "You have no right to be so positive about it. All people do not think alike regarding these things, any more than they think alike regarding other things."

That is a fair point. Can it be met? I think so. In the first place, we will certainly find common ground in the premise that any adjunct should be in keeping with, should accentuate, should strengthen the central figure, the dominant thought. At any rate, we will agree that it should not distract the attention, should not suggest incongruous things, should not belittle the main concept.

With this in mind let us reason thus. Is it a good thing, when in the service of the Lord, that the operatic scenario, with its sensuous seductiveness, its ballets, its plots of passion, betrayal and murder, its crass absurdities, its rank artificialities and worse, should oust those loftier ideals which are surely looked for wherever two or three are gathered together with the Christ in their midst?

Wondrous is the pow'r I feel, With one word from thee, With thy heart and lips reveal Thoughts conceived by me.

Is it a good thing, again, to make such a travesty as "Saviour, o'er Life's Troubled Deep" out of Franz Bendel's intense love song, "Wie Beruhrt Mich Wundersam"? When I heard this in church the other day I instinctively and inevitably sang along with the soloist. But his words were not my words. He sang of things celestial, I in this wise:

And you may be sure that every sweetheart I ever had on two continents wandered adown Memory Lane, each aglow with the joys and the sorrows of the jilting and the jilted. But if it did me any good religiously it was not to such an extent as to be exactly noticeable.

No, no. If, as I said in the article on the Pope's edict, the church is a concertizing institution, then, change the name, and go in for the business in a business-like way. Engage your impresario, install your picturesque press agent, trot out your theatric effects, advertise your famous beauty choir, and make success—with honest music if you can, but make success—big church, big congregation, big salary

But, if the church is something everything else is not; if it stands for the things which are unseen rather than for things material; if we have seen the vision and are following the star (to paraphrase stur-

dy, honest Dr. Thompson) let us give the church its own, and nothing but its own, in music—as in morals, in ethics, in ideals, in literature.

Herein, then, lies the broad intent of the projected articles—to urge the elimination of the unworthy and the adoption of the true and appropriate.

If church "programs"—an atrocious word for service lists—feature the unsuitable, the secular or the trashy, the better way will be pointed out. And, with the nobler concept gaining ground, there can be nothing but an ignoble pride or an ignoble taste in the church that is content to squat on the lowest rung of Jacob's ladder.

FREDERICK STEVENSON

Musical Notes

Rehearsals have begun for the May Festival. which is to begin the week of May 8.

Next Wednesday evening, at Cumnock Hall, Bertha Kunz Baker, one of the celebrated readers of America, will present Ibsen's dramatic poem, "Peer Gynt," with incidental music composed by Greig."

The next concert of the Choral Society will be given on the evening of March 23, when "Elijah"

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will be produced. Director Jahn is seeking to augment the chorus by about fifty voices. The financial condition of the society is very satisfactory.

A new company has been organized, for the purpose of giving concerts in churches, to clubs and for any purpose, in Southern California. The company consists of Miss Beeson Welch, soprano; Miss Ethel Mitchell, contralto; Miss Stratton, violinist: Miss Grace Freebey, pianist, and Winifred B. Rogers,

The next symphony concert will be given on the afternoon of January 13. Arnold Krauss will be the soloist. Mendelssohn's overture, "Calm Sea and a Prosperous Voyage," and Haydn's ninth symphony will be produced by the Orchestra.

The Mozart Symphony Club of New York is to appear in the Y. M. C. A. Star Course at Simpson Auditorium next Thursday night.

These players were here last year, and achieved much success. Their entertainment is not only pleasing to the casual ear, but is entertaining as well in an educational line. Their instruments are all those of bygone periods, and could scarcely be duplicated anywhere in the world.

Chief among these is the celebrated "Viol d'Amour," which is two centuries old, and which was long ago declared obsolete by every musical community of consequence in the world. It has fourteen strings, and is similar to the violin in theory. Seven of the strings only were used in bowing, while the balance were directly under the original seven, and vibrated in unison. Herr Stoelzer, director of the Mozart Club, first introduced the instrument to the American public. His Viol d'Amour is a Cremona, of 1690. Miss Marie Stori, soprano, and Miss Julie Petersen, flute soloist, complete the roster.

Library Notes.

McClure, Phillips & Co. have made a gift book of "In the Closed Room," by Mrs. Burnett. It is illustrated in colors by Jessie Willcox Smith and printed with broad mar-

gins and decorations in tint.

Dodd, Mead & Co. announce for publication "Popular Operas," by H. A. Guerber, author of "Stories of the Wagner Operas" and "Empresses of France." The new illustration of the Control of trated book will be the third in the series and will contain stories, omitted from the others, of "La Traviata," "Rigoletto," "The Prophet" and "Manon."

The Macmillan Company will shortly issue "Sunny Sicily,"

by Mrs. Alec Tweedie. It will contain a number of illustra-"Mexico as I Saw It' and "Through Finland in Carts."

Among the G. P. Putnam announcements is "The Story of the United States," by Edwin Earl Sparks. It is in two

volumes and will be included in the Story of the Nation Se-

A year ago McClure-Phillips issued a book entitled "Encyclopedia of Household Economy." The title has been changed for greater convenience in reference to "The Complete Housekeeper."

Little, Brown & Co. will issue a book by Albert L. Law-rence entitled "The Wolverine." The scene is laid in Detroit, and it has been described as a story of love and

J. B. Lippincott Company is issuing "Country Stories," by Mary Russell Mitford, which will contain sixty illustrations by George Morrow. They also announce "The Spectator in London," essays by Addison and Steele, with fifty-six illustrations by Ralph Cleaver, and head pieces by W. A. Atkin Berry and Clough Bromley.

J. B. Lippincott Company is issuing the third volume of the Scientific Romance Series under the title "The Romance of Modern Exploration." The book treats of the interesting and romantic in modern travel as experienced by such men as Sven Hedin in Asia and Nansen and Andre in the Arctic, and contains twenty-four illustrations, chiefly from photographs.

The Young Churchman Company of Milwaukee will publish "The Presence of God" on the first of next month. This work comprises some of the prose and poetical selections from the writings of the Rev. Chester Wood of Detroit.

The Macmillan Company is issuing "Jacob A. Riis; a Sketch of His Life and Work," in brochure form, which may be had on application. The booklet contains a portrait of Riis and is made up of sixteen pages.

Financial

The total clearings in the Los Angeles Clearing House for the year 1904 were \$345,343,956, as against \$307,316,530 in 1903 and \$245,516,094 in 1902. The clearings nine years ago, that is to say in 1895, were \$62,123,601. In other words, the business of the city has increased nearly six-fold in nine

Guy Barham, at the particular request of Gover nor Pardee, has agreed to remain in office as Bank Commissioner for two months longer.

The employes of the Los Angeles National Bank were given a half month's salary as a Christmas gift from the institution. The employes returned their thanks in appropriate resolutions and congratulated the officials on the successful conduct of the bank.

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Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the 13th day of December, A. D. 1904, an assessment of five cents per share, or five per cent on each one hundred dollars, was levied upon the subscribed capital stock of the Corporation, payable immediately in United States gold coin, to the Secretary of said Company, at its office, Room 406 of the Lankershim Building, Corner of Third and Spring Streets, in the City of Los Angeles, California.

Any stock upon this assessment shall remain unpaid on the 30th day of January, 1905, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before March 7th, will be sold on the 7th day of March, 1905, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with cost of advertising and expenses.

By order of the Board of Directors,

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closed its doors and the plaintiff was unable then or since to collect the amount called for by the cheek. The plaintiff in December demanded the defendant that he pay the cheek. This he refused to do and judgment for the sum of \$620.28 is asked.

The members of the local banking syndicate which subscribed for the \$1,000,000 issue of outfall sewer bonds and the \$400,000 issue of storm drain bonds have divided up their holdings, each party to the arrangement taking the bonds subscribed for. When the bankers subscribed for the bonds a pool was formed for convenience in handling the large transaction. The subscriptions were made with the understanding that the banks would handle the money acquired by the city from the sale of the bonds. The withdrawal of the money to the city vault, under the direction of the court, has occasioned a change in the plans of the bankers. One block of storm drain stock amounting to \$390,000, which has not been divided, will be placed on the market by the bankers.

Harry B. Ziegler, assistant cashier of the First National bank and of the Citizens Savings bank of Long Beach, has resigned to engage in business in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles Trust Company has occupied its new banking quarters on the ground floor of the Trust Building. At the close of business December 31, the company had \$1,041,002.24 deposits, paid up capital of \$600,000 and a surplus amounting to \$57,050.52. The resources are enumerated as follows: Bills receivable, \$664,857.19; stocks, bonds and warrants, \$333,837.99; Trust Building and safe deposit vaults, \$38,789.50; furniture and fixtures, \$3,764.62; cash on hand and in other banks, \$376,903.94. Total, \$1,698.053.24.

The Southwestern Brokerage Company has incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000, of which \$200 has been subscribed. The directors are L. A. Lavender, H. F. Daly, L. P. Tappeiner, D. M. Smith, J. H. Clancy, C. J. Daly, C. J. Kupfer and G. Simpson, all of Los Angeles.

The California Trust Company has incorporated with a capital stock of \$200,000, and with R. A. Fowler, T. C. Van Epps, F. C. Wallace, M. Campbell and F. E. Bailey, all of Los Angeles, as directors.

The Los Angeles Investment and Trust Company has increased its capital stock from \$130,000 to \$500,000.

The new building of the First National Bank at Highlands is about completed and the bank will soon be in its new quarters.

The Fullerton City Water Works has filed articles of incorporation for the purpose of furnishing the City of Fullerton with water and other public utilities. James H. Adams, Thomas W. Phillips, James R. Martin and others, of Los Angeles, are named as directors. Capital stock, \$100,000. A bond issue of \$30,000 is subscribed.

It is almost certain that the forthcoming Legislature of Arizona will pass a bill authorizing the issuance of \$100,000 for enlarging the Territorial Industrial School located in Benson.

The \$40,000 San Pedro High School bonds have been sold to E. H. Rollins & Sons of San Francisco, The price obtained was par and \$2,132 premium.

The Board of Directors of the Long Beach Land and Hotel company will call a meeting of the stockholders on March 7, 1905, in their offices, room 401 H. W. Hellman Building, to take up the matter of an issue of \$500,000 bonds, payable 20 years from date with interest 6 per cent, payable semi-annually.

An ordinance at Ocean Park has been read for the first time providing for the election on Monday. January 23, to vote on \$20,000 bonds for sewers and \$5000 for engine house and equipment. The bonds are to run 10 years and bear 5 per cent interest.

The new Board of Education of Los Angeles has declared the proposed issue of \$520,000 bonds for school improvements off as set forth by their predecessors, and will make a tour of investigation, with reference to a new issue.

When the citizens of Long Beach voted \$100,000 for school bonds last year, it was thought that the amount was sufficient for some time, but it now seems that a further issue is imperative.

There is some dissatisfaction in Santa Ana over the recent bond election of \$100,000 for water bonds and the parties dissatisfied may bring an election contest in an attempt to throw out the issue, claiming irregularities were practiced.

The water commissioners of Santa Barbara have laid before the Council an application for the sale of more of the water bonds, which were authorized at a special election. The policy has been to only sell a block as the funds were required and they now ask that the second block of \$40,000 be placed on the market.

A meeting was held at Orange recently to discuss the proposed issue of \$75,000; for water works \$50,-000, electric light plant \$15,000, and for City Hall \$10,000. Considerable opposition has developed against the City Hall and electric light bonds, and it is doubtful if they carry.

A resolution has been adopted by the City Trustees of Whittier declaring it a public necessity that the city vote on an issue of \$110,000 bonds for acquiring a water system, water bearing lands and reservoir site and construction of same.

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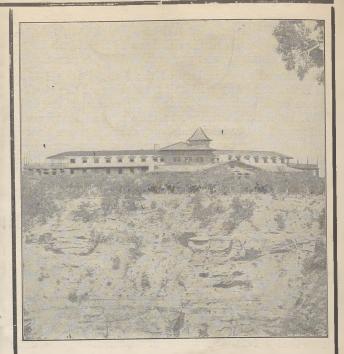
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